



General Assembly

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Sixty-first session

Agenda item 46

**Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session:
implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS**

**Botswana, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania
and United States of America: draft decision**

International Voluntary HIV Counselling and Testing Day

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 60/262 of 2 June 2006, including its commitment to scale up efforts towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010, and its pledge to promote, at the international, regional, national and local levels, access to HIV/AIDS education, information, voluntary counselling and testing and related services, with full protection of confidentiality and informed consent, and to promote a social and legal environment that is supportive of and safe for voluntary disclosure of HIV status, decides to call on Member States to designate a Voluntary HIV Counselling and Testing Day in 2007 and to encourage Member States, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and its co-sponsors, and other relevant international and national organizations to take measures, as appropriate, in accordance with nationally determined action plans and policies, and, as part of scaling up nationally driven, sustainable and comprehensive responses to achieving broad multisectoral coverage for prevention, treatment, care and support, to observe the day on 1 December 2007 or on such other day or days in 2007 as individual Member States may decide.





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Agenda item 46

**Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth
special session: implementation of the Declaration
of Commitment on HIV/AIDS**

**Botswana, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania and
United States of America: draft decision**

International Voluntary HIV Counselling and Testing Day

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

**Barbados, Cambodia, Comoros, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Grenada, Honduras,
Israel, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint
Vincent and the Grenadines, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,
Uganda and Viet Nam**





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Agenda item 62 (b)

New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support: causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

South Africa:* draft resolution

Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,¹ and its resolutions 53/92 of 7 December 1998, 54/234 of 22 December 1999, 55/217 of 21 December 2000, 56/37 of 4 December 2001, 57/296 of 20 December 2002, 57/337 of 3 July 2003, 58/235 of 23 December 2003, 59/255 of 23 December 2004 and 60/223 of 23 December 2005, as well as resolution 59/213 of 20 December 2004 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union,

Recalling also, in this context, Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, 1366 (2001) of 30 August 2001 on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts, 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 on the plight of children in armed conflict, 1625 (2005) of 14 September 2005 on strengthening the effectiveness of the Council's role in conflict prevention, particularly in Africa, and 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005 on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/56/45).



Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,² through which world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the special needs of Africa,

Recalling also the creation by the Economic and Social Council, by its resolution 2002/1 of 15 July 2002, of ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict,

Recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Stressing that the responsibility for peace and security in Africa, including the capacity to address the root causes of conflict and to resolve conflicts in a peaceful manner, lies primarily with African countries, while recognizing the need for support from the international community,

Recognizing in particular the importance of strengthening the capacity of African regional and subregional organizations to address the causes of conflict in Africa,

Noting that conflict prevention and the consolidation of peace would benefit from the coordinated, sustained and integrated efforts of the United Nations system and Member States, and regional and subregional organizations, as well as international and regional financial institutions,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen the synergy between Africa's economic and social development programmes and its peace and security agenda,

Recognizing the importance of the Peacebuilding Commission as a dedicated mechanism to address the special needs of countries emerging from conflict towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction and to assist them in laying the foundation for sustainable development,

Underlining the need to address the negative implications of the illegal exploitation of natural resources in all its aspects on peace, security and development in Africa, and underlining also that the illicit trade in natural resources is a matter of serious international concern, which can be directly linked to the fuelling of armed conflicts and the illicit trade in and proliferation of arms, especially small arms and light weapons,

1. *Takes note* of the progress report of the Secretary-General³ on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,⁴ including recent efforts in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding undertaken by African countries, African regional organizations and the United Nations system;

2. *Welcomes* the steady progress in the prevention, management and resolution of conflict and in post-conflict peacebuilding in a number of African countries;

3. *Also welcomes* the determination of the African Union to strengthen its peacekeeping capacity and to take the lead in peacekeeping operations in the

² See resolution 60/1.

³ A/61/213.

⁴ A/52/871-S/1998/318.

continent, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and in close coordination with the United Nations, through the Peace and Security Council, as well as ongoing efforts to develop a continental early warning system, enhanced mediation capacity, including through the establishment of the Panel of the Wise, and the African standby force;

4. *Urges* the United Nations and invites other development partners to increase their support for the African Union in order to enhance its capacity and effectiveness in the planning, deployment and management of peacekeeping operations and the advanced training to African peacekeepers, and urges the donor community to replenish the African Peace Facility;

5. *Calls for* a holistic and coordinated approach at the national, regional and international levels to identify causes of each conflict situation as a means to improve the effectiveness of conflict prevention and resolution, crisis management, peacemaking, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding efforts in Africa;

6. *Stresses* the critical importance of a regional approach to conflict prevention, particularly with respect to cross-border issues such as disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, prevention of illegal exploitation of natural resources and trafficking of high-value commodities and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and emphasizes the central role of the African Union and subregional organizations in addressing such issues;

7. *Welcomes* efforts to enhance practical cooperation, within the framework of an effective partnership, between the United Nations and the African Union in the realm of conflict prevention and resolution, crisis management, peacemaking, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding in Africa, and in this context urges the United Nations system and the international community to increase, coordinate and sustain their efforts aimed at assisting African countries in addressing the full range of causes of conflict in Africa;

8. *Stresses* the importance of effectively addressing challenges which continue to hamper the achievement of peace and stability on the continent, inter alia, youth unemployment, the devastating social, economic and political impact of the HIV/AIDS crisis, the illegal exploitation of natural resources and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

9. *Calls for* the enhancement of the role of women in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict peacebuilding;

10. *Notes with concern* the tragic plight of children in conflict situations in Africa, particularly the growing phenomenon of child soldiers, and reiterates the need for post-conflict counselling, rehabilitation and education;

11. *Recognizes* the important role of the good offices of the Secretary-General in Africa, and encourages the Secretary-General to use mediation as often as possible to help to solve conflicts peacefully, taking due consideration of the work performed by the African Union and other subregional organizations in that regard;

12. *Welcomes* the strengthening of the United Nations peacemaking support capacity through the establishment of the Mediation Support Unit within the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat as well as the launch of United Nations Peacemaker, a Web-based knowledge-sharing and operational tool;

13. *Invites* the United Nations and the donor community to increase efforts to support ongoing regional efforts to build African mediation and negotiation capacity;

14. *Welcomes* African-led initiatives to strengthen political, economic and corporate governance, such as the Africa Peer Review Mechanism, encourages more African countries to accede to it, and calls upon the United Nations system and Member States to assist African Member States and regional and subregional organizations in their efforts to improve good governance, including the rule of law and the holding of free and fair elections;

15. *Recognizes* the role that the Peacebuilding Commission can perform to ensure the national ownership of the peacebuilding process in countries emerging from conflict and that nationally evolved priorities are at the core of international and regional efforts in addressing the root causes of the conflicts in the countries under consideration, and calls for the full engagement and commitment of all relevant actors to the work of the Peacebuilding Commission with a view to addressing nationally identified critical peacebuilding priorities and issues through a coherent and holistic peacebuilding response;

16. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and invites Member States to assist African countries emerging from conflict in their efforts to build national capacities of governance, including the rehabilitation of the security sector, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, provision for the safe return of internally displaced persons and refugees, the launch of income-generation activities, particularly for youth and women, and the delivery of basic public services;

17. *Stresses* the importance of creating an environment conducive to national reconciliation and social and economic recovery in countries emerging from conflict;

18. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the Expert Group Meeting on "Natural Resources and Conflict in Africa: Transforming a Peace Liability into a Peace Asset",² held in Cairo from 17 to 19 June 2006, calls upon African Member States and regional and subregional organizations to assist African countries emerging from conflict in devising national natural resources and public revenue management structures, and urges the international community to assist in this process by providing adequate financial and technical assistance, as well as by renewing commitment to efforts aimed at combating the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of those countries,

19. *Notes* the positive role the media can play in conflict prevention and resolution, welcomes decision 215 (VII) of the seventh ordinary session of the Executive Council of the African Union of July 2005, as adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, to establish the Pan-African Television Channel as a vehicle to mitigate the sociocultural causes of conflict in Africa, and calls upon the international community to increase efforts to support the establishment of such a channel and to discourage hate media and promote responsible journalism;

² Available from <http://www.un.org/Africa/osaat/>

20. *Decides* to continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the aforementioned progress report concrete proposals for possible United Nations actions and plans in support of the goal of achieving a conflict-free Africa by 2010.



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Agenda item 69 (a)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa,* Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian segments of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Reiterating that independence means the autonomy of humanitarian objectives as distinct from the political, economic, military or other objectives that may be pursued by any actor with regard to areas where humanitarian action is being implemented,

Welcoming the Hyogo Declaration,¹ the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters² and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

¹ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

² Ibid., resolution 2.



reduction for a safer future,³ as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing also the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness, response and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities in this regard,

Noting the critical role played by local resources, and by existing in-country capacities, in natural disaster management and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, and of strengthening the response capacity of countries affected by disaster,

Noting with appreciation the important role played by Member States, including developing countries, that have granted necessary and continued generous assistance to countries and peoples stricken by natural disasters,

Recognizing the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

Emphasizing the importance of addressing vulnerability and integrating risk reduction into all phases of natural disaster management, post-natural disaster recovery and development planning,

Welcoming the work carried out by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the setting up of regional tsunami early warning systems, in the Indian Ocean, the Mediterranean and the north-east Atlantic, and noting with appreciation the convening of the Third International Conference on Early Warning, held in Bonn, Germany, in March 2006,

Recognizing that efforts to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be adversely affected by natural disasters, and noting the positive contribution that those efforts can make in strengthening the resilience of populations to such disasters,

Emphasizing, in this context, the important role of development organizations in supporting national efforts to mitigate the consequences of natural disasters,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief

³ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

to development";⁴ "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations";⁵ "Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction, recovery and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster";⁶ and "Central Emergency Response Fund";⁷

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Calls upon* States to fully implement the Hyogo Declaration¹ and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,² in particular those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and for disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

4. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning, and in this regard requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition;

5. *Welcomes* the effective cooperation among the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and other relevant organizations, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and civil society, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout relief operations and medium and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

6. *Reiterates* the commitment to support the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact;

7. *Stresses* that, to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, of regional and subregional capacities of developing countries for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, and more efficiently and at lower cost;

8. *Also stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the timely provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases

⁴ A/61/314.

⁵ A/61/85-E/2006/81.

⁶ A/61/87-E/2006/77.

⁷ A/61/85/Add.1-E/2006/81/Add.1.

of a disaster, from relief and mitigation to development, including the provision of adequate resources;

9. *Welcomes* the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the promotion and coordination of disaster response among United Nations humanitarian organizations and other humanitarian partners;

10. *Also welcomes*, so as to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, the incorporation of experts from developing countries that are prone to natural disasters into the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system and the work of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group in assisting such countries in strengthening urban search and rescue capacities and establishing mechanisms for improving their coordination of national and international response in the field, and recalls in this regard its resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with States and relevant organizations, to continue to explore ways to strengthen the rapid response capacities of the international community to provide immediate humanitarian relief, building on existing arrangements and ongoing initiatives;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop more systematic links with Member States offering military assets for natural disaster response in order to identify the availability of such assets;

13. *Notes* that the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities, including the Directory of Advanced Technologies for Disaster Response, has the potential to support planning preparedness and response activities, and requests the Secretary-General to propose options to enhance its relevance;

14. *Encourages* donors to consider the importance of ensuring that assistance in the case of higher-profile natural disasters does not come at the expense of those natural disasters that may be relatively lower-profile, bearing in mind that the allocation of resources should be driven by needs;

15. *Recognizes* that information and telecommunication technology can play an important role in disaster response, encourages Member States to develop emergency response telecommunication capacities, and encourages the international community to assist the efforts of developing countries in this area, where needed;

16. *Encourages* States that have not acceded to or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, which entered into force on 8 January 2005,⁸ to consider doing so;

17. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote sensing technologies, as well as the sharing of geographical data, for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate;

18. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and international financial institutions to enhance the global capacity for sustainable

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

post-disaster recovery in areas such as coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners, identification and dissemination of lessons learned, development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming, and incorporation of risk reduction into all recovery processes, and welcomes the ongoing efforts to this end;

19. *Requests* the United Nations system to improve its coordination of disaster recovery efforts, from relief to development, inter alia, by strengthening institutional, coordination and strategic planning efforts in disaster recovery, in support of national authorities;

20. *Stresses* the importance of rapid access to funds to ensure a more predictable and timely United Nations response to humanitarian emergencies, and welcomes in this regard the establishment of the Central Emergency Response Fund in its resolution 60/124;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the international response to natural disasters and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.



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Agenda item 108 (f)

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe and Timor-Leste: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/10 of 26 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and considered it mutually advantageous to provide for cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, and its resolution 59/21 of 8 November 2004, by which it invited the Secretary-General of the United Nations to undertake consultations with the Executive Secretary of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, and requested the specialized agencies and other bodies and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate to that end with the Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary,

Recalling also the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Considering that the activities of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries complement and support the work of the United Nations,

Welcoming the participation of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in the Sixth High-level Meeting between the United Nations and Regional and Other Intergovernmental Organizations, held in New York on 25 and 26 July 2005,

Recalling the celebration on 5 May 2006, for the first time, of Lusophone Culture Day,



1. *Notes with appreciation* the progress achieved in cooperation between the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and the specialized agencies and other bodies and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

2. *Welcomes* the signature on 9 November 2006 of the agreement between the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries regarding consultation, exchange of information and technical cooperation on their respective activities in the field of human rights;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to undertake consultations with the Executive Secretary with a view to promoting cooperation between the secretariats of the two bodies, in particular by encouraging meetings that enable their representatives to consult one another on projects, measures and procedures that will facilitate and expand their mutual cooperation and coordination;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary to start consultations with a view to considering the establishment of a formal cooperation agreement;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries".



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Agenda Item 69 (a)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 57/152 of 16 December 2002, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/25 of 5 December 2003, 58/214 and 58/215



of 23 December 2003, 59/212 of 20 December 2004, 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December 2004, 59/279 of 19 January 2005 and 60/15 of 14 November 2005,

Noting the Declaration on Action to Strengthen Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Prevention in the Aftermath of the Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster of 26 December 2004, adopted at the special meeting of leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, held in Jakarta on 6 January 2005,¹

Recalling the Hyogo Declaration² and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015,³ as well as the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster,⁴ adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction, recovery and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster,⁵

Taking note with appreciation of the convening of the Global Consortium for Tsunami-Affected Countries by the Office of the United Nations Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery in April 2006, which brought together national Governments, United Nations agencies, other intergovernmental organizations, the international financial institutions, consortia of non-governmental organizations and donor Governments with the aim of identifying common priorities and implementing actions towards achieving community-driven development, meeting funding gaps, fostering accountability and transparency, integrating disaster risk reduction, disaster resilience and an effective early warning system that is, inter alia, people-centred, into national development plans, building social and physical infrastructure and supporting microfinance activities,

Welcoming the convening of the final meeting of the Global Consortium on Tsunami Recovery in New York on 15 November 2006, chaired by Mr. William Jefferson Clinton, former President of the United States of America, in his capacity as the United Nations Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, aiming to review the progress made and to identify key recovery and reconstruction goals,

Noting with appreciation the convening of the Third International Conference on Early Warning, in Bonn, Germany, from 27 to 29 March 2006,

Stressing the need to develop and implement risk reduction strategies and to integrate them, where appropriate, into national development plans, in particular through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, so as to enhance the resilience of populations in disasters and reduce the risks to them, their livelihoods, the social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources, and stressing also the need for Governments to develop and implement effective national plans for hazard warning systems with a disaster risk reduction approach,

¹ A/59/669, annex.

² A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

³ Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2).

⁴ Common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II).

⁵ A/61/87-E/2006/77.

Emphasizing that disaster reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Welcoming the role of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the establishment and implementation of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System, given the importance of strengthening regional and subregional cooperation and coordination, which is essential for effective early warning system arrangements for tsunamis,

Noting the communiqué relating to support for tsunami and multi-hazard warning systems within the context of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems, which supports the inter-operability of systems and free and open real-time data exchange, adopted at the third Earth Observation Summit, in Brussels, on 16 February 2005,

Welcoming the establishment of the Multi-Donor Trust Fund on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia, and invites Governments, donor countries, relevant international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to consider contributing to the Trust Fund through financial contributions and technical cooperation to support the establishment of the tsunami early warning system in accordance with the needs of the countries of the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia so that the Trust Fund contributes to the development of an integrated early warning system based on adequate resources and comprising a network of collaborative centres connected to the global system,

Stressing the need for continued commitment to assist the affected countries and their peoples, particularly the most vulnerable groups, to fully recover from the catastrophic and traumatic effects of the disaster, including their medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and welcoming Government and international assistance measures in this regard,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts by the Governments of affected countries to undertake the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, as well as in enhancing financial transparency and accountability, with respect to the channelling and utilization of resources, including, as appropriate, through the involvement of international public auditors;

2. *Commends* the prompt response, continued support, generous assistance and contributions of the international community, by donor Governments, civil society, the private sector and individuals, in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, which reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation to address the disaster;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the continued work of Mr. William Jefferson Clinton, former President of the United States of America, the United Nations Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, and his various initiatives, and encourages his efforts to continue sustaining the political will and to promote the identification of priorities and integration of efforts of the international community, particularly regional and international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector, to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction efforts led by the Governments of affected countries;

4. *Encourages* donor communities and international and regional financial institutions, as well as the private sector and civil society, to strengthen partnerships and to continue to support the medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction needs of the affected;

5. *Also encourages* the continued effective coordination among the Governments of affected countries, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, international organizations, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and private sectors involved in rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in order to ensure the effective implementation of existing joint programmes and to prevent unnecessary duplication and reduce vulnerability to future natural hazards, as well as to adequately respond to the remaining humanitarian needs, where needed;

6. *Stresses* the need for the development of stronger institutions, mechanisms and capacities at the regional, national and local levels, as affirmed in the Hyogo Declaration² and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015,³ and the promotion of public education, awareness and community participation, in order to systematically build resilience to hazards and disasters, as well as reduce the risks and the vulnerability of populations to disasters, including an effective and sustained tsunami warning system, particularly in tsunami-prone countries;

7. *Calls upon* States to fully implement the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015, in particular those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and for disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable, physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

8. *Stresses* the importance of and the need for regular updating of recovery assessment by the Governments of affected countries, the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions, based on the affected countries' national data and utilizing a consistent methodology, in order to reassess progress and identify gaps and priorities, with the participation of the local community during the recovery and reconstruction phase in order to build back better;

9. *Emphasizes* the need to promote transparency and accountability among donors and recipient countries by means of, inter alia, a unified financial and sectoral information online tracking system, and highlights the importance of timely and accurate information on assessed needs and the sources and uses of funds and the continued support of donors, where needed, for further development of online tracking systems in the affected countries;

10. *Stresses* the need for relevant bodies of the United Nations system, international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector to implement programmes according to assessed needs and agreed priorities of the Governments of tsunami-affected countries and to ensure full transparency and accountability for their programme activities;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of international agencies, donor countries and relevant civil society organizations in supporting the Governments of affected countries to develop national capacity for tsunami warning and response so as to increase public awareness and provide community-based support for disaster risk reduction;

12. *Encourages* international agencies and Governments to enhance and accelerate their support for the development, implementation and maintenance of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System, under the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the appropriate vehicle for the rapid and timely exchange of alerts and related information required to deliver effective tsunami warnings at the national level;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to strengthen the rapid response capacities of the international community to provide immediate humanitarian relief, building on existing arrangements and ongoing initiatives;

14. *Encourages* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations and other humanitarian and relevant development actors to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

15. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system, in planning for disaster preparedness and responding to natural disasters, and in implementing recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, to integrate a gender perspective and to ensure that women take an active and equal role in all phases of disaster management;

16. *Stresses* the importance of a coordinated process of assessing lessons learned in the international response to a given humanitarian emergency, and notes the efforts of Governments of the affected countries, donor Governments and international organizations in providing reports on evaluations of and lessons learned from the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster;⁶

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2007.

⁶ *The 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster: Evaluation of UNICEF's Response (Emergency and Initial Recovery Phase); Survivors of the Tsunami: One Year Later — UNDP Assisting Communities to Build Back Better; "Towards a United Nations humanitarian assistance programme for disaster response and reduction: Lessons learned from the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster" (JUI/REP/2006/5); "Building a land of hope: one year report", Executing Agency of the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency for Aceh and Nias, April 2006; "Joint evaluation of the international response to the Indian Ocean tsunami", synthesis report of the Tsunami Evaluation Coalition, July 2006.*



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Agenda item 69

**Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations,
including special economic assistance**

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling all relevant resolutions on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution 60/123 of 15 December 2005, as well as Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003 and relevant statements by the President of the Council,

Recalling also all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements and reports of the Secretary-General to the Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict,

Recalling further all relevant provisions of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as all relevant treaties,¹

¹ They include, notably, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947, the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of



Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Urging all parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949² and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto, of 8 June 1977,³ to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

Welcoming the fact that the number of States parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,⁴ which entered into force on 15 January 1999, has continued to rise, the number now having reached eighty-one, and mindful of the need to promote universality of the Convention,

Deeply concerned by the dangers and security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel at the field level, as they operate in increasingly complex contexts, as well as the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international law, in particular international humanitarian law,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, often at great personal risk, especially locally recruited staff,

Expressing profound regret at the deaths of and violent acts against international and national humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and strongly deploring the rising toll of casualties among such personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations,

Strongly condemning acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children, and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property,

Expressing deep concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the provision of assistance and protection to populations in need,

8 June 1977, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996 to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

Affirming the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity, and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice as provided for by national law and obligations under international law,

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,⁵ and noting the role that the Court could play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, which constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, and mindful of the need to promote and enhance the security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations and a culture of accountability at all levels,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;⁶
2. *Urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel;
3. *Strongly urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;
4. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties involved in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment in order to allow those personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;
5. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments;
6. *Also calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;⁵
7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption of the Optional Protocol⁷ to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,⁴ which

⁵ See *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June-17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

⁶ A/61/463.

expands the scope of legal protection under the Convention, and calls upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol as soon as possible so as to ensure its rapid entry into force, and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation;

8. *Expresses deep concern* that, over the past decade, threats and attacks against the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel have escalated dramatically and that perpetrators of acts of violence seemingly operate with impunity;

9. *Strongly condemns* all threats and acts of violence against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, reaffirms the need to hold accountable those responsible for such acts, strongly urges all States to take stronger action to ensure that any such acts committed on their territory are investigated fully and to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance with international law and national law, and urges States to end impunity for such acts;

10. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel, so as to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of those who have been arrested or detained in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

11. *Calls upon* all other parties involved in armed conflicts to refrain from abducting humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel or detaining them in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm or requirement of concession, any abductee or detainee;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, and also requests the Secretary-General to seek the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,⁷ the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies⁸ and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

13. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission and host country agreements and other related agreements negotiated between the

⁷ Resolution 60/42, annex.

⁸ Resolution 22 A (I).

⁹ Resolution 179 (II).

United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

14. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to observe and respect the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

15. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel remain sensitive to national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives to local populations;

16. *Welcomes* ongoing efforts to promote and enhance the security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures in this regard, including by further developing and implementing a unified security management system, as well as by disseminating and ensuring the implementation of the security procedures and regulations and by ensuring accountability at all levels, and also welcomes the creation and the work of the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat;

17. *Emphasizes* the importance of paying special attention to the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel engaged in United Nations peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations;

18. *Also emphasizes* the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who are particularly vulnerable to attacks and who account for the majority of casualties, and calls on humanitarian organizations to ensure that their staff are adequately informed about and trained in their respective organization's relevant security measures, plans and initiatives, which should be in line with applicable national and international law;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with the minimum operating security standards and relevant codes of conduct and are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant national and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights law and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

20. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts by the Secretary-General and stresses the need to ensure that all United Nations staff members receive adequate security training, including training to enhance cultural awareness, prior to their deployment to the field, as well as the need to attach a high priority to stress management training and related counselling services for United Nations staff throughout the system;

21. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations;¹⁰
22. *Emphasizes* the importance of information on the range and scope of security incidents involving humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, including attacks against them, to clarify their operating environment;
23. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to further enhance the security management system of the United Nations, and in this regard invites the United Nations and, as appropriate, other humanitarian organizations, working closely with host States, to further strengthen the analysis of threats to their safety and security in order to manage security risks by facilitating informed decisions on the maintenance of an effective presence in the field, inter alia, to fulfil their humanitarian mandate;
24. *Stresses* that the effective functioning at the country level of security operations requires a unified capacity for policy, standards, coordination, communication, compliance and threat and risk assessment, and notes the benefits thereof to United Nations and associated personnel, including those achieved by the Department of Safety and Security since its establishment;
25. *Recognizes* the need to continue efforts to achieve a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations, both at the headquarters and the field levels, and requests the United Nations system, as well as Member States, to take all appropriate measures to that end;
26. *Requests* the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue to promote increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, and calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts;
27. *Recognizes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far, as well as the need for continued efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation, both at the headquarters and the field levels, between the United Nations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, and encourages collaborative initiatives to address security training needs;
28. *Underlines* the need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System, inter alia, with a view to reinforcing the efforts of the Department of Safety and Security to ensure the safety and security of personnel working in emergency and humanitarian operations;

¹⁰ A/61/531.

29. *Recalls* the essential role of telecommunication resources in ensuring the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, calls upon States to consider acceding to or ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998, which entered into force on 8 January 2005,¹¹ and urges them to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and international obligations applicable to them, the use of communications equipment in such operations, inter alia, through limiting and, whenever possible, expeditiously lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and associated personnel;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution.

¹¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.



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Agenda item 69 (a)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹

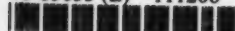
Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the Central Emergency Response Fund,²

Reaffirming the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Noting with grave concern the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, and reaffirming the need for sustainable measures at all levels to reduce the vulnerability of societies to natural hazards using an integrated, multi-hazard approach, and the importance of including disaster risk reduction as part of long-term and sustainable development strategies, taking

¹ A/61/85-E/2006/81.

² A/61/85/Add.1-E/2006/81/Add.1.



into account the Hyogo Declaration³ and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,⁴

Noting also with grave concern that violence, including gender-based violence and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,

Emphasizing the need to mobilize adequate resources for humanitarian assistance and with a view to ensuring more equitable distribution across humanitarian emergencies as well as fuller coverage of the needs in all sectors,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by the United Nations to improve humanitarian response, including by strengthening humanitarian response capacities, by improving humanitarian coordination, and by enhancing predictable and adequate funding,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the ninth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council, held during its substantive session of 2006;

2. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance and calls upon relevant United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and relevant development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

3. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors, to pursue efforts to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by further strengthening the humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by further enhancing transparency, performance and accountability;

4. *Encourages* States to create an enabling environment for capacity-building of local authorities and local and national non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing humanitarian assistance;

5. *Emphasizes* the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, reaffirms the leading role of civilian organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, particularly in areas affected by conflicts, and affirms the need, in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be in conformity with international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to develop more systematic links with Member States offering military assets for natural disaster response in order to identify the availability of such assets;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with States and relevant organizations, to further develop and improve, as required, mechanisms for

³ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

⁴ Ibid., resolution 2.

the use of emergency standby capacities, including, where appropriate, regional humanitarian capacities, under the auspices of the United Nations, *inter alia*, through formal agreements with appropriate regional organizations;

8. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement of and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response and encourages the United Nations to pursue recent efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

9. *Reiterates* the need for a more effective, efficient, coherent, coordinated and better-performing United Nations country presence, with a strengthened role for the senior United Nations resident official responsible for the coordination of United Nations humanitarian assistance, including appropriate authority, resources and accountability;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including through the provision of necessary training, the identification of resources, and improving the identification and selection of United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators;

11. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations, to support the improvements of the consolidated appeals process, *inter alia*, by engaging in the preparation of needs analysis and common action plans, in order to further development of the process as an instrument for United Nations strategic planning and prioritization, and by involving other relevant humanitarian organizations in the process, while reiterating that consolidated appeals are prepared in consultation with affected States;

12. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations to further develop common mechanisms to improve their transparency and the reliability of their humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance, and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

13. *Calls upon* donors to provide adequate, predictable and flexible resources based on, and in proportion to, assessed needs and to encourage efforts to implement the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship;

14. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Central Emergency Response Fund as set out in General Assembly resolution 60/124 of 15 December 2005 and the fact that fifty-four donors have pledged 297,900,000 million United States dollars in the first year of operations, notes the assessment of the Secretary-General on its initial functioning as reflected in his report on the Fund² and looks forward to the independent review in 2008;

15. *Also welcomes* the Secretary-General's efforts to set up appropriate reporting and accountability mechanisms for the Fund, and stresses the importance of ensuring that the resources are allocated and used in the most efficient, effective and transparent manner possible;

16. *Urges* all Member States and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider making voluntary contributions to the Fund, reaffirms the target of 500 million dollars by 2008, and emphasizes that

contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

17. *Reiterates* that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding;

18. *Urges* all Member States to take effective measures to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, and to make all possible efforts to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence;

19. *Calls upon* all Member States and encourages the relevant organizations of the United Nations to strengthen support services, including psychosocial support, to victims of gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies;

20. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel as well as delivery of supplies and equipment in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

21. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

22. *Calls upon* States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence committed against civilian populations in armed conflicts as well as to ensure that those responsible are promptly brought to justice, as provided by national law and obligations under international law;

23. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement⁵ as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, and encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for international support, upon request, to capacity-building efforts of States;

24. *Re-emphasizes* the importance of the discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and that these discussions should be continuously revitalized by Member States with a view to enhancing their relevance, efficiency and impact;

25. *Encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council on humanitarian issues, based on their respective mandates and taking into account comparative advantages and existing complementarities of the two bodies;

⁵ E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

26. *Decides*, in order to have a more focused and consolidated discussion on humanitarian issues, that the sub-items of its agenda related to the strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations currently considered by the Second Committee shall be reallocated to its plenary as of its sixty-second session;

27. *Recalls* the request to the Secretary-General, in the ninth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council, to include in his report lessons learned and best practices in the implementation of the pilot projects using the cluster approach, in consultation with affected countries and with the active involvement of relevant United Nations humanitarian entities;⁶

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2007, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations and to submit a report to the Assembly through the Council on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund.

⁶ See Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/5 of 18 July 2006, para. 26.



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Agenda item 69 (d)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: assistance to the Palestinian people

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/126 of 15 December 2005, as well as previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,¹ and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Recalling further the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,² the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights² and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,³

Gravely concerned at the deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in particular children, throughout the occupied territory, which constitutes a mounting humanitarian crisis,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

¹ A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

² See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.



Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all children in the whole Middle East region,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact, including the health and psychological consequences, of violence on the present and future well-being of children in the region,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Welcoming also the results of the Stockholm International Donor Conference on the Humanitarian Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories of 1 September 2006,

Welcoming further the work of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Stressing the continued importance of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee in the coordination of assistance to the Palestinian people,

Stressing also the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, and welcoming in this regard the support provided to the Palestinian Authority by the Task Force on Palestinian Reform, established by the Quartet in 2002,

Noting, in this regard, the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

Welcoming the endorsement by the Security Council, in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, of the performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,⁴ and stressing the need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank as a step towards implementation of the road map,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,⁵

Expressing grave concern at the continuation of the recent tragic and violent events that have led to many deaths and injuries, including among children,

⁴ S/2003/529, annex.

⁵ A/60/90-E/2005/80.

1. *Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;*⁵
2. *Also takes note of the report of the Personal Humanitarian Envoy of the Secretary-General on the humanitarian conditions and needs of the Palestinian people;*⁶
3. *Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;*
4. *Also expresses its appreciation to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;*
5. *Stresses the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;*
6. *Urges Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;*
7. *Calls upon relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with priorities set forth by the Palestinian side;*
8. *Calls upon the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian children and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions;*
9. *Welcomes the role that the temporary international mechanism plays in assisting directly the Palestinian people under the current circumstances, and encourages interested donors to make use of the mechanism;*
10. *Urges Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;*
11. *Calls upon the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;*
12. *Stresses, in this context, the importance of ensuring the free passage of aid to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;*
13. *Also stresses the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 5 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip;*

⁵ Available at http://domino.un.org/bertini_rpt.htm.

14. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend as rapidly as possible emergency economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people to counter the impact of the current crisis;

15. *Stresses* the need to implement the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,⁷ in particular with regard to the full and prompt clearance of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(a) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(b) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

⁷ A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.



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Agenda item 104

Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Croatia, Grenada, Malaysia, Malta and Niger: draft resolution

Tribute to Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Welcoming Security Council resolution 1715 (2006) of 9 October 2006,

Acknowledging with deep gratitude the indefatigable efforts and dedicated service provided to the Organization during the past 10 years by Secretary-General Kofi Annan,

Recognizing the high professional and personal qualities he brought to the performance of his duties and responsibilities,

Placing on special record his many bold initiatives — political, diplomatic and organizational — and his important achievements, in particular with respect to the Millennium Development Goals, peace and security issues, environmental issues and United Nations reform,

1. *Pays warm tribute* to Secretary-General Kofi Annan for his exceptional contribution to international peace and security, as well as his outstanding efforts to strengthen the United Nations system and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in the interest of a better world;

2. *Expresses its deep gratitude* to Secretary-General Kofi Annan for having undertaken reforms and advanced numerous proposals with a view to enhancing the Organization's capacity to meet the major challenges of our time.

